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DECEMBER 2019 | VOLUME 10 ISSUE 12

YOUR DONATION BENEFITS THE VENDORS.
PLEASE BUY ONLY FROM BADGED VENDORS.

A year after the revision, critics are unhappy with university's sexual misconduct policy. **Page 7**



MEET YOUR
VENDOR: **TONY S.**,
PAGE 3

GROUNDCOVER

NEWS AND SOLUTIONS FROM THE GROUND UP | WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICH.



- The state of homelessness in Washtenaw County. **Page 4**
- The city moves on affordable housing downtown while activists insist on more and sooner. **Page 5**

Suicide takes a toll on survivors

SANDRA S.

Groundcover vendor No. 233

As last month I wrote about depression, I thought it would be good to talk about suicide this month, since they seem to correlate. When a person attempts suicide, they are usually dealing with some type of mental illness, often undiagnosed.

Some researchers believe suicide and suicidal ideation represent a unique clinical condition warranting a diagnostic label. As of now, the DMS-5 does not include suicide as a mental disorder.

We need to do something about the worsening statistics. According to The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the U.S. It is the eighth leading cause of death among U.S. men, according to the Centers for Disease Control; it's the third leading cause among teens, according to the National Vital Statistics System.

Suicide rates increased by about 2% per year from 2006 to 2014, according to the CDC; in 2017, 47,173 Americans killed themselves.

These numbers are shocking! Suicide has tragic psychological effects on the family and friends of a victim of suicide, and even increases their own suicide risk.

According to volunteers for suicide hotlines and telephone crisis interventions, and mental health professionals, the most important techniques are:

- You should develop and maintain a good relationship with the suicidal caller by showing genuine concern. When you stay on the phone with them, it increases the chances that they will realize there are other solutions for them besides suicide.
- You should also get key information like their name and current location in the case the need to locate the person arises.
- You should evaluate the likelihood of the suicidal caller completing the suicide. Take a look at the self-destructive intent and access to lethal methods. You could also use the lethality rating scale that's based on the age, gender, onset of symptoms, situational plight, prior suicidal attempts and again, their access to lethal methods.
- You should get a clear idea of what the caller's distress is about. Sometimes you will notice their lack of touch with reality. Feelings of

hopelessness often interfere with clear reasoning, and you would then have the opportunity to help them with their confusion and make them realize that even though you acknowledge their despair, there are options other than suicide.

- You should assess the caller's strengths and resources. In the middle of the crisis, the caller may have forgotten their coping mechanisms and you are there to explore that with them. Also, you can help them identify who they can reach out to for help, like family and friends, as well as doctors, therapists or clergy.

- You should initiate an action plan. This might mean going to the caller's location to see them, calling their family or referring them to professionals or specialist in crisis.

If I had to define suicide, I would go by sociologist Emile Durkheim's theory, "Suicide results from an inability to integrate oneself in society." Therefore, it is almost our duty to help others who we see alienated come back to the bigger group. Isolation brings nothing good. And it doesn't cost us anything to show others kindness.

Also, the interpersonal-psychological theory of Florida State University professor Thomas Joiner is relevant. Joiner proposed that two social factors are strongly associated with suicide: perceived burdensomeness and thwarted belongingness. In regard to perceived burdensomeness, I would like to say that no matter how overwhelmed you might feel with other people's necessities or demands, it's important to put oneself in others' shoes and evaluate how important your help might be to them. It may save a life.

Ways to cope

If you are the one having suicidal thoughts, some of the things you can do are:

- Promise yourself not to do anything during the crisis. Wait for time to pass. Hindsight is 20/20.
- Avoid alcohol or drugs as they alter the way you think about your reality.
- Make your environment safe or go to a safe environment. Sometimes it's just a matter of going where you are not alone, or throwing away anything you could use to hurt yourself.

Remember, there is always hope and room for

See **SUICIDE** page 10 ➡

Where can we find the Good Samaritan now?

KEN PARKS

Groundcover vendor No. 490

If you are in West Park by Chapin Street in Ann Arbor, please read the sign about the Native American Trail. You will learn about those who walked here before you: the Anishinaabe people of the Three Fires. If you come with a clean heart you will feel the spirit of the land. I slept well near the trail a few times.

Recently I was at Vineyard Church on Platt Road when they discussed the good Samaritan. I was inspired to speak about our Mother, who is laying in the ditch, robbed, raped and beaten. It is still happening. Indigenous people are rising as the good Samaritan today. We learned at Standing Rock, N.D., that the Seventh Generation and all Water Protectors are the good Samaritans of today. The collective good Samaritan is rising, indigenous-centered with many friends and allies. I was honored by some of the youth of Vineyard Church who thanked me for speaking truth freely.

The next day, I was with the Green Room Christians at the Yellow Barn and a service based on "Why are you so afraid?" from the story of the disciples and the storm when they were in the boat with Jesus sleeping. Pastor Scott and I bonded enough afterwards that I could ask him, "Do you have your nerve up to overturn the tables of the moneychangers?"

I am now pausing for a natural breath. Some things cannot be done alone. We will seek and create the council to consider reality. With ceremony and sacred fire, we will discover who we are and what needs to be done. We will do it. The future is born from this moment. Grant your blessing that my mind and the mind of all beings is one with the truth. Buddhists say Dharma, Unconditioned Reality.

Of all my ancestors, I honor those who most uplift me: Sakyamuni Buddha, Jesus, Black Elk, Martin Luther King Jr., too many to name.

"Decolonization Is Not A Metaphor" by Eve Tuck and others will help us find direction. To respect the earth under our feet, the land will go back in an indigenous-centered process that benefits all our relations.

May we do the many kinds of work and play that frees our Mother and all her children. Thank you.

GROUNDCOVER

Mission

Creating opportunity and a voice for low-income people while taking action to end homelessness and poverty.

Susan Beckett — publisher
Jim McBee — managing editor
Andrew Nixon — editor

This month's contributors

Elizabeth Baumann
Niquelle Cassador
Anna Cloud
Peter A. Collins
LaShawn Courtwright
Christopher Ellis
Ken Parks
Sandra S.
Will Shakespeare
Kevin Spangler

Volunteers

Peter Beyer
Lindsay Calka
Shreya Chakravarthy
Gerry Charbeneau
Glenn Gates
Robert Klingler
Jon MacDonagh-Dumler
Lucy Miller
Sandy Schmoker
Nolan Smith
Mary Wisgerhof
Andrea Zaghi

Story and photo submissions

submissions@groundcovernews.com

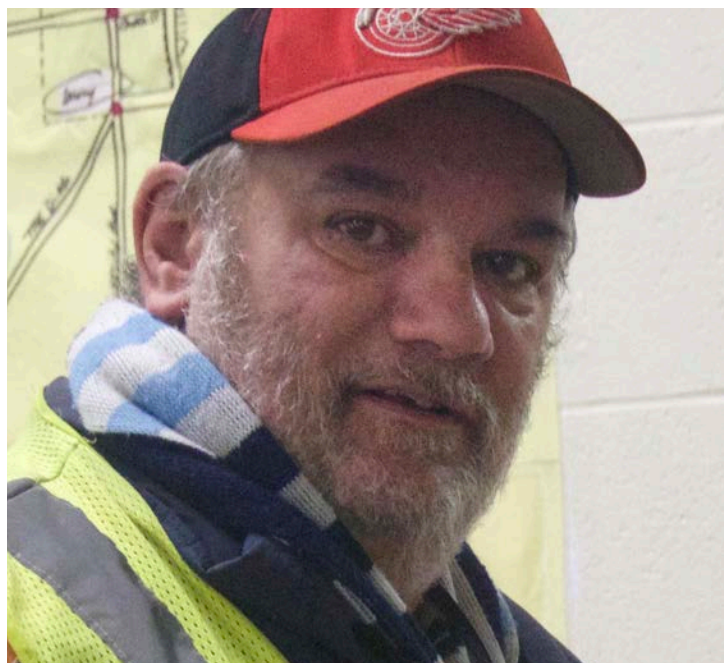
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- 423 S. 4th Ave., Ann Arbor

MEET YOUR VENDOR



Tony S., vendor no. 9

In one sentence, who are you: Good, friendly person to talk to.

Where do you normally sell Groundcover? Various places: Liberty and Main, OldTown Restaurant, churches, especially St. Francis

When and why did you start selling Groundcover? 2010, the first week Groundcover started. Waited one week because I was working at the art fair.

What are your favorite things about selling Groundcover? I enjoy sales and talking to people. Meeting different people.

What's something our readers should know? (I enjoy) talking to people about sports, weather and life itself.

What's the most interesting thing that's ever happened to you while selling Groundcover? Meeting Joan Baez, but there've been several.

Get your shot to prevent flu's spread

Special to Groundcover

The Washtenaw County Health Department encourages everyone six months and older to get vaccinated against flu this year. Good handwashing, covering your cough, and staying away from others when sick also prevent the spread of flu.

Vaccination can protect against severe cases of illness, hospitalization, and death due to flu, as well as reduce the spread of illness. Getting vaccinated also protects the people around you, including those who are more vulnerable to serious flu illness, like babies and young children, older people, and people with certain health conditions.

It is also important to stay home if you are sick, cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze or cough, wash your hands often using soap and warm water, and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs.



The First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor (above), the Delonis Center and Trinity Lutheran Church (below) are among those institutions that provide winter warming shelters for the homeless. Photos by Peter Beyer.

Warming spaces are slated for the '19-'20 winter season

WILL SHAKESPEARE

Groundcover vendor No. 258

The Delonis Center opened its annual overnight warming center for the homeless Nov. 12, said Dan Kelly, executive director of the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County. Shelter will be available beginning at 6:30 p.m. nightly till April 1, 2020. A dinner is served each weekday at 5 p.m..

When necessary, Delonis provides transport to the warming center after 5 p.m. and on weekends. Please call 734-662-2829, ext. 238 for transportation to the overnight warming center.

Kelly said the night-time warming program known as the "Church Rotation" also started Nov. 12. The conclusion of those night-time programs will be announced in the future, based on weather conditions. For access to the daytime or overnight warming centers, clients must get a referral to the Delonis Center through Housing Access of Washtenaw County: 734-961-1999 or housingaccess.net.

Here is the schedule for the daytime warming program:

Dec. 1-13: Journey of Faith Church, 1900 Manchester, Ann Arbor

Dec. 17-27: Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 West Stadium, Ann Arbor

January: St. Mary's Student Parish, 331 Thompson, Ann Arbor

February, Tuesdays and Thursdays: First Baptist Church, 517 East Washington, Ann Arbor

February, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: First Congregational Church, 608 East William, Ann Arbor

Early March: to be announced

March 16-27: Journey of Faith Church, 1900 Manchester, Ann Arbor

Sheri Wander, manager of the daytime program — which is implemented by MISSION



Community Organization and Delonis — is working closely with the churches to update the schedule. Hot meals are available for guests and volunteers. Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor Peace Houses offer hot meals and coffee during regular hours. The "Community Kitchen" at the Delonis Center offers lunch and dinner weekdays, and afternoon dinners on Saturdays and Sundays which are served between 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The plight of homeless people during winter challenges neighbors of conscience and goodwill to go the extra mile. There is no shortage of compassion and kindness towards homeless people of Ann Arbor. However, more can be done to empower communities to prevent and end homelessness. "Every year, over 5,000 people experience homeless in Washtenaw County, many more experience food insecurity," according to a report in the November edition of Groundcover.

State of Homelessness 2019

On Nov. 13, the Washtenaw Housing Alliance held its first State of Homelessness at Washtenaw Community College. The event was half report card, half pep rally for activists and agencies involved in the effort to end homelessness in Washtenaw County. Here are some facts and quotes from the evening. Photos by Jim McBee.



Robin Newell,

25, moved from the South to southwest Detroit, a neighborhood known as The Pit.

"I got bullied by teachers, by principals ... even by custodians," she said.

"People didn't accept us for who we were." Newell learned to fight.

Later, an Ann Arbor counselor she didn't get along with told her "There's a spot down the street called Ozone House. Why don't you go hustle them?"

"They gave me back my hope. They gave me back my faith."

75%

of people who qualify for housing aid "never receive the support they need." Where other entitlement programs, like food stamp, guarantee help if you qualify, "it is perfectly acceptable" to leave people who need housing out in the cold, said **Mercedes Brown**, director of the Michigan Corporation for Supportive Housing.



"It doesn't take a rocket scientist to know that's a primary driver of homelessness" she said. "Homelessness is above all an affordable housing issue."

DEMOGRAPHICS OF HOMELESSNESS

White: 61%	Men: 52%	Under 18: 22%
Black: 36%	Women: 47%	18-24: 11%
Native: 2%	TGNC: 1%	25-54: 53%
Asian: 1%		55+: 22%
Latinx: 6%		

3,312: number of people experiencing homelessness
2% increase since 2017
4% decrease since 2015

135: average number of days between entering and exiting the homeless system.

20%: people returning to homelessness after being housed
2017: 18%
2015: 38%



"My family turned their back on me," said **Yolanda Neely.**

But case managers at the Delonis Center were there for her after she became homeless. "You saved my life, personally. Now I want to help other people." She's at Washtenaw Community College, working on a social work degree.



"We need affordable housing. Ann Arbor needs to step up and build what they said they would build."

John Wilkerson, a formerly homeless man now working toward a masters in social work at Eastern Michigan University.



City advances two proposals for affordable housing downtown

JIM McBEE

Managing editor

Surprise! The Ann Arbor City Council approved preliminary moves to build affordable housing downtown.

At the Nov. 18 meeting, Jennifer Hall, executive director of the Ann Arbor Housing Commission, recommended more than a dozen potential development sites across the city.

Council approved a proposal to begin development on the Fourth and Catherine Parking Lot by a vote of 9-2, with council members Jack Eaton and Jane Lumm opposed. A later vote on 404 N. Ashley St., a building that the U-M Dental Clinic rents, was unanimous.

A city memo estimates the two sites could yield 120-170 units of affordable housing for households with incomes up to 60% of the Area Median Income, a federally established figure used in formulas for housing subsidies. In Ann Arbor, that would mean a family of four with an income of \$60,720 would qualify for a subsidy to live in such housing downtown.

City Council directed Hall on April 1 to put together recommendations for “underutilized city property,” with the stipulation that she focus on maintaining public ownership of the land while leasing development rights. The Catherine and Ashley lots fell into the most likely to get funded category, Hall said. “It would be a lost opportunity not to develop them right now.”

Other city-owned sites the city is considering for development that includes affordable housing:

- 721 N. Main St. — vacant public services buildings
- 2000 S. Industrial — public services buildings and AAHC offices
- 1501 E. Stadium — a former fire station now used for fire inspection services
- Parking lot at 309 S. Ashley — also known as the Kline’s lot
- Parking lot at 216 W. William St. — northeast corner of 1st and William
- 3432 Platt Road and 3443 Springbrook St. — a strip of vacant land owned AAHC, but never developed
- 415 W. Washington — vacant public services

Know and Go

The City of Ann Arbor will hold five open houses to discuss what to do with two city-owned, downtown vacant lots: 350 S. Fifth Ave., also known as the Y Lot, and 415 W. Washington St.

When: Dec. 5, 5-9 p.m.

Where: Ann Arbor Downtown Dev. Authority, 150 S. 5th Ave. #301

When: Dec. 6, noon-4 p.m.

Where: Ann Arbor District Downtown Library, 3rd Floor Freespace

When: Dec. 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Ann Arbor YMCA, Michigan Room

When: Dec. 8, noon-4 p.m.

Where: The Circ Bar, 210 S. 1st St.

When: Dec. 9, 9 a.m.-noon

Where: Ann Arbor District Downtown Library, 3rd Floor Freespace

building

- Parking lot at 350 S. Fifth Ave. — the former Y lot

Another property, the City Senior Center at 1320 Baldwin Ave., was not proposed for redevelopment as housing.

Center of the City

A city-owned downtown property that isn’t on the list for possible housing development is the Library Lot. A city task force held an open house Nov. 6 at the downtown library to collect ideas for the space; affordable housing was among the many suggestions, including public performance facilities and a park with trees.

The city had planned to sell the lot to Chicago developer Core Spaces for \$10 million and put

Above: Protestors march Nov. 17 on Main Street to demand the city build affordable housing to address Ann Arbor’s housing crisis of spiking rents and stagnant wages.

Below: People turn out Nov. 6 at an open house at the downtown library to offer ideas for a “Center of the City” commons on the Library Lot, which is now a surface and underground parking lot. In 2018, voters nixed a planned 17-story mixed-use project that would have provided the city \$5 million for affordable housing. Photos by Jim McBee



See **HOUSING** page 10 ➔



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Send resumes to contact@groundcovernews.com



Michigan Movement member Lindsay Calka and Will Shakespeare at Liberty Park in downtown Ann Arbor.

Students help homeless at Liberty Plaza event

By **WILL SHAKESPEARE, KATERYNA KARPOFF, NATHANIEL NASS, SLOANE LYNCH** and **LINDSAY CALKA**
Groundcover contributors

In advance of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week Nov. 16-24, a U-M student group called Michigan Movement held a major event to help the poor at Ann Arbor's Liberty Plaza. Embracing the cold weather, Michigan Movement students assembled on Nov. 10 to implement Project Connect, a program modeled after the annual tent-city event in Toledo, Ohio.

Student leaders set up stations that included check-in and public health surveys; winter blankets, backpacks and feminine hygiene; haircut and styling; food; and medical outreach. As Michigan Daily's Tal Lipkin observed, the medical outreach station did "blood sugar and blood pressure testing, Medicaid enrollment, dentistry assessment, birth certificates and State/Local ID referrals."

Dozens of Michigan Movement volunteers worked with local homeless advocates to serve breakfast and lunch, and to direct visitors to where they could receive needed services, goods, food and companionship.

The student group brought much-needed kindness, compassion, excitement, and happy memories. Some of the Michigan Movement students worked with me at the event; some have worked with me for three to four years. We met at the U-M Poverty Simulation Workshop, and subsequently, MiM was introduced to efforts at Robert J. Delonis Homeless Shelter, The Mercy House and Groundcover.

Below are viewpoints of some guests of Project Connect, and the opinions of some MiM students:

- "I appreciate the hospitality that you guys bring to the homeless community, and I just want to say thanks for your help and support! I definitely think the food and Washtenaw ID services really help, as well as the hygiene products and the backpack giveaways. I think the most important thing is that you guys take the time to socialize with us — we interact and communicate with one another, the students and the homeless community. I think that really helps bridge the gaps for us to work together so that we can go a little bit further in the future." — Jamal

- "I think the whole event is great — what you guys are doing here. I don't know if one service was more beneficial than another, but I did take advantage of all of them, which was nice. I really haven't talked to anyone else who is going through this, but it's just great that you guys are doing this because a lot of us don't have this opportunity to get this kind of help." — Anonymous

- "I think this is a really powerful event. It gives people an opportunity to see the advantages and services you have out there that you normally can't get. It's nice to be able to walk up to an event and see if my blood sugar is too high. All of these different vendors are a really great thing and it's super powerful." — Anonymous

- "I think community service means getting active, and there's not necessarily one way to do that. Physically going out and speaking with people who you normally wouldn't interact



St. Francis of Assisi Parish Come Worship With Us!

Christmas Eve and Day
Tuesday, Dec. 24, Christmas
Eve: Masses at 4 p.m. &
6 p.m., 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 25, Christmas
Day: Masses at 9:30
& 11:30 a.m.

Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday, Dec 28: Masses
at 5 & 7 p.m.
Sunday, Dec 29: Masses
at 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m.,
10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;
no 5 p.m. Mass

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother
of God/New Year's Day**
Tuesday, Dec. 31: Mass
at 9:15 a.m.; Vigil Mass
at 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan 1: Mass
at 10 a.m.

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Critics: Interim sexual misconduct policy is cruel

**NIQUELLE CASSADOR
and ANNA CLOUD**
Groundcover contributors

It has been almost a year since the University of Michigan implemented an interim policy that requires students to personally cross-examine one another in sexual misconduct cases. Victim rights advocates argue the policy is unnecessarily egregious for survivors of sexual assault.

"Why the f--- would I want the person who hurt me and made me feel uncomfortable question my credibility?" asked one survivor who preferred to remain anonymous. "Why did anyone think that was a good idea?"

University officials counter that the new policy is more humane than involving lawyers and creating a "court-like proceeding."

How did U-M get here?

In 2018, an unnamed student accused of sexual misconduct alleged that U-M violated his due-process rights by not allowing him to cross-examine his accuser. The case, *Doe v. Baum*, reached the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled in the defendant's favor, costing U-M \$1.6 million in legal fees. Now, universities across the sixth circuit must rewrite their policies to allow for cross-examination in sexual misconduct hearings. However, the circuit court recommended advisers, not the parties themselves, conduct the questioning.

"Universities have a legitimate interest in avoiding procedures that may subject an alleged victim to further harm or harassment. And in sexual misconduct cases, allowing the accused to cross-examine the accuser may do just that," the court wrote in its opinion.

However, U-M's interim policy prohibits the use of advisers during cross-examination, ignoring the court's advice and requiring students to conduct the questioning themselves.

Critics argue this further traumatizes survivors of sexual assault and deters students from reporting sexual misconduct. According to the Office for Institutional Equity on Nov. 11: "reports of sexual assault have decreased by about 15% as compared to last year (from 149 to 126)."

U-M administrators say students can use technology in place of face-to-face cross-examination. But the specifics are not explicitly stated on the U-M Sexual Misconduct Policy website. Victim activists from nonprofit *Roe v. Rape* met with Kaaren Williamsen,



Students protest the University of Michigan's interim sexual misconduct policy Nov. 20 on the Diag.

Why an 'interim' policy?

U-M implemented its revised sexual misconduct policy after *Doe v. Baum*, but all public universities are waiting on the U.S. Department of Education to finalize its own Title IX rule, which has been under revision, reviewing comments for the past 10 months.

director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center, to have the policy explained.

"The hearing officer asks the majority of the questions, and then the parties are given the opportunity to question each other," Williamsen told *Roe v. Rape*. "I think out of the 11 hearings I've been to so far, all have chosen to participate remotely via Blue Jeans," conferencing software used by the university.

According to Williamsen, remote participation does not require video but must provide audio responses to questions. However, according to a message from an anonymous student, video was mandatory during that person's cross-examination. "The 'Skype' option is available because I fought tooth and nail for it and there is no option to turn off the audio or video," the student said. "They even make you and the respondent sit closest to the camera so you can see each other as clearly as possible."

Questions of fairness

The university says prohibiting the use of advisers or lawyers is more equitable, as it prevents affluent students from wielding an unfair advantage and keeps the courtroom out of the university.

"We have concerns about turning an administrative process into a courtlike proceeding and we worry that not all students will be able to be represented by counsel," said Rick Fitzgerald, U-M Assistant Vice President for Public Affairs.

But Josiah Walker, a student activist, believes students will likely still consult attorneys and legal advisers, leaving the problem of equity unresolved.

Michigan State University, U-M's larger neighbor, is also subject to the 6th Circuit ruling. That school opted to conduct cross examination by representatives and not by the parties themselves. The American Civil Liberties Union says this is preferable and well within U-M's capabilities.

Emma Sandberg, a U-M student and executive director of *Roe v. Rape*, views changing U-M's interim policy as a top priority for her organization. Sandberg has met with numerous university administrators to discuss the policy. She is frustrated by what she sees as willful ignorance of trauma.

Karaan Williamsen, the SAPAC director, said she and other administrators believe cross-examination by an attorney is more traumatizing for survivors than cross-examination by their abusers. U-M President Schlissel said during a Fireside Chat, "We thought it might be less traumatizing

to have a peer ask questions of another peer."

Not what they would choose

But at least some students filing sexual misconduct cases under the new policy feel otherwise, according to a report Groundcover received from a student who wanted to remain anonymous. "As a victim, I can tell you I would choose to have a third party/lawyer do the cross examination rather than the man who sexually harassed me do it, 100 times over," the student said.

Sandberg says the interim policy also disadvantages students accused of sexual misconduct. Students are not trained in cross-examination, she says, and could ask potentially self-incriminating questions.

Sandberg wonders why U-M continues to defend what she regards as an unethical and unpopular policy. She suspects money is the reason.

"If a representative does it (the cross-examination), then we will probably have to provide lawyers for everybody ... and then, you know, it gets very expensive for everybody," Schlissel said.

In addition to the \$1.6 million spent for *Doe v. Baum*, U-M has spent \$650,000 in the ongoing *Doe v. University of Michigan* lawsuit.

"They're not going to change this policy through their own goodness. The only way that they're going to change the policy," Sandberg said, "is if they think that this policy will result in less alumni donating."

Working together: the new leadership

KEVIN SPANGLER

Groundcover vendor No. 307

Fun times are here and more are coming.

This was a big month for Boober. I now have 11 motors. We are expanding our radius with these motors to increase distance and money earned for the drivers and to increase money made from football games. Ann Arbor is full of hills! I invested a lot of my own money to make this happen because the app is almost finished. We do Boober year 'round; cold does not stop us or our patrons.

Residence Inn by Marriott Ann Arbor Downtown has upgraded its advertising from one cab to a full side of my community-advertising trailer. With this new plan, I am able to upgrade the axles to carry more people and roll better.

The community ad trailer was my second prototype. I tried new things that didn't quite work, but I learned a lot and have been upgrading all of the ad trailers. I am finishing the roof and am looking into putting a full enclosure on it so we can take large parties home or across town.

I have a new manager now; he's Bryan, who was always doing extra around the shop. He kind of fell into the position; he volunteered to build his royal road and wants to learn how to build roads for others. That's what Ariel and I are working on — an easy model that other people can work on together. Working together is the new leadership.

Vendor publishes her poetry

LA SHAWN COURTWRIGHT

Groundcover vendor No. 56

I'm proud to announce the release of my first book titled, "The Fold — A Collection of Poetry." It is a dream come true for me.

The book is available online on Barnes and Noble and Amazon. In about four to six weeks, it will be available on iTunes and Google Play. I hope that many will purchase and enjoy my work. I would like to mention that any bookstores that offer my book for sale may buy

them at a discount of 55%, and they are returnable to Page Publishing Company.

This is truly an honor to graduate from a published writer to author. I have a novella and another series of poetry that will be released in the latter part of the year 2020 or early 2021.

I look forward to sharing many more works with you all. I aspire to be among the most extraordinary screenwriters in the near future. I hope that you will enjoy reading these writings as much as I did creating them.

Saint Andrews

CHRISTOPHER ELLIS

Groundcover contributor

It came so clear on
these tables,
crystallized vases atop, in
the center where
surround faces at bottom.

So far below that chandeliered shimmer
and silvered trayed lace
and unstained linen,

yet the ceremony and hovering
dais speak a single
tongue, raising one voice over
common bread,

which courses a psychic vein, seeing
this honest place where no
boundaries linger, nor
exist.

2020 Census Mini Grant Competition

The Decennial Census determines political representation and funding for social services, community infrastructure, & more. That means we need to make sure everyone in our community is educated and prepared to take the census in March/April of 2020!



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Contact Peter Lindeman
at 734.544.6714 or lindemanp@washtenaw.org
with any questions



	5		2					
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7		9		5				
	4						1	
				1		5		9
1			3	9		8	2	
8		7						4
					2		7	

Prisons do not disappear social problems, they disappear human beings. Homelessness, unemployment, drug addiction, mental illness, and illiteracy are only a few of the problems that disappear from public view when the human beings contending with them are relegated to cages.

Angela Davis

Keep it Under Wraps Peter A Collins

ACROSS

- 1. Musketeer with Porthos and Aramis
- 6. Six-time MLB All Star Rusty
- 11. Tach measure
- 14. Raise one's voice
- 15. American tribe that lent its name to a state
- 16. Edmund Fitzgerald cargo
- 17. Cambridge native, for instance
- 19. Day, in Spain
- 20. Secure
- 21. Least cluttered
- 23. Hit TV show set in a hospital
- 26. Farm bundles
- 29. Actor/rapper ___ Def
- 30. ATM maker
- 31. Apply
- 32. Prefix with pressure
- 33. Garden invaders
- 36. Amphibian also called hellbender
- 40. Relishes
- 41. ___ shot
- 42. Put away the dishes?
- 43. Inventive Whitney
- 44. ___-de-sac
- 45. Winter coat
- 47. Part of a business plan
- 51. Lures
- 52. No more than
- 56. ___ dye
- 57. Office gift-exchange custom (and a hint to the circled letters)
- 60. Part of mph
- 61. Mountain climber's tool
- 62. "It's been ___ pleasure"
- 63. Bygone flier
- 64. Ancient Britons
- 65. Refuse

DOWN

- 1. Bewildered
- 2. Word said while pointing, maybe
- 3. Trebek or Sajak

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15						16		
17						18						19		
20								21			22			
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47	48					49			50					
51									52			53	54	55
56						57		58	59					
60						61					62			
63						64					65			

Peter A Collins

- 4. Power failure
- 5. Elevator alternative
- 6. DreamWorks ___ (film studio)
- 7. Chess champion Mikhail
- 8. Baker and Bryant
- 9. Olympic sprinter Bolt
- 10. Neckwear for an 11-Down, perhaps
- 11. One busting a bronco
- 12. Geometrical solid
- 13. Substantial
- 18. Ann Arbor-to-Bad Axe dir.
- 22. "Txtng & Drivng... ___ Wait"
- 24. '70s classic that begins "Young man, there's no need to feel down"
- 25. Deeply felt
- 26. Listening devices
- 27. China setting
- 28. Ships out
- 32. Crèche figure
- 33. Dallas school: Abbr.
- 34. Tire trouble
- 35. Miss from Mex.
- 37. Actor Nick of "Cape Fear"
- 38. Period when dinosaurs appeared
- 39. Friend
- 44. Scratch
- 45. Lumberjack's two-man tool
- 46. Eritrean capital
- 47. Casino game
- 48. Moves slowly
- 49. One crying "Uncle"?
- 50. Took a load off
- 53. Tip jar fillers
- 54. RBI or ERA, e.g.
- 55. Saga
- 58. Pack animal?
- 59. "All My ___ Live in Texas"

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Activists gather to demand affordable housing Nov. 10 in Liberty Plaza in downtown Ann Arbor.

➔ HOUSING from page 5

half the sale proceeds toward affordable housing. Core Spaces planned a 17-story mixed-use building. But in November 2018, voters passed Proposal A, which required that the lot must remain publicly owned and be developed as a civic “commons.” The Center of the City task force will propose uses for the site at another open house in January.

Context

Ann Arbor has benefited from job growth in recent years, and many retirees seek to live in the city, which boasts frequent mentions on lists of top places to live

in the United States. But not much housing has been built for all the people who want to live here, so real estate prices and rents have spiked. That’s left an affordability gap for working folks and made it hard for some retirees to stay in town.

The housing that has been built has been high-end construction; cheaper housing just hasn’t been in the cards, Hall said. “Affordable housing developers cannot compete with the private sector to purchase property,” she said. It can take at least two years to arrange funding from various sources, by which time land owners have long since sold out. That’s why it makes sense for public land owners to get in the affordable-housing game. “The city can sit on a piece of property for years” waiting for funding to come together.

➔ STUDENTS from page 6

with, and who are marginalized, is important no matter what kind of service you’re providing.” — Nathaniel

• “Community service, to me, really means the community itself — the community of [Michigan Movement] members, but also connecting with others in the local community. It’s about pushing your comfort zone a little bit.” — Marissa

• “It means a lot to me and is an important part of my life that I want to keep doing. It’s an aspect that I feel is great to keep you grounded, at least for me, and I enjoy it being a consistent aspect that helps me not be ignorant” — Annika

• “To me, I think the most important part is the aspect of community and actually getting involved and getting to know the people who you are serving. There are some aspects to community service where there’s an emphasis on the service, but you don’t actually get to know the community. Something that the Michigan Movement does really well is combining both the community and service aspects together, really getting to know — working with, and talking regularly to — the people you work with and want to serve in the future. I think it’s really important to ask questions to find out what the needs are, rather than making assumptions.” — Katie

➔ SUICIDE from page 2

your situation to improve. Especially if you find support, things can get better with time.

Don’t keep your suicidal feelings to yourself. When you share with others you trust, that’s half the battle. When you are not wasting energy by hiding these fearful emotions, then you can focus on seeking help.

If you are a survivor of a suicide attempt, you might be feeling guilt, trying to make meaning or understand the tragedy, developing risky behavior, and your relationships with friends may have changed. This all just

means you still need help. Just because you survived doesn’t mean you are safe. You should seek help.

Many people who commit suicide have a history of attempts. Therefore, seeking help after surviving an attempt is appropriate. Many mental health professionals think that when suicidal people are given appropriate support to cope with their issues, their pain lessens and they begin to see there are options besides taking their lives. Most people don’t want to die for real, they just want the pain to stop and don’t know how to stop it.

I’ll close with a common saying: Suicide is an irreversible solution for a temporary problem.

Sweet Potatoes with Orange Glaze

ELIZABETH BAUMANN
Groundcover contributor

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Vegetable oil | concentrate |
| 2 pounds sweet potatoes | 2 tbs. water |
| 2 tbs. butter | ½ tsp. ground cinnamon |
| 2 to 3 tbs. brown sugar | ¼ tsp. salt |
| 2 tbs. orange juice | 4 tbs. chopped pecans, toasted |

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Lightly oil a large sheet pan with vegetable oil.

Peel and slice sweet potatoes into 1/4-inch thick rounds and place in a large bowl. In a small saucepan, heat the butter, sugar, water and cinnamon until the butter is melted and the sugar is dissolved (just a few minutes). Pour all but 4 tablespoons of the glaze over the potatoes. Toss to coat. Roast in oven for 30 minutes, turning potatoes after 15 minutes. Heat remaining glaze over low heat in the saucepan until it has thickened (about 4 minutes). Remove from heat and add salt. When the potatoes are cooked thru, remove from oven and toss with reduced glaze. Top with pecans.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

1	A	T	H	O	S	6	S	T	A	U	B	11	R	P	M
14	S	H	O	U	T	15	K	A	N	S	A	16	O	R	E
17	E	A	S	T	A	18	N	G	L	I	A	19	D	I	A
20	A	T	T	A	I	N	21	T	I	D	I	22	E	S	T
23	G	R	E	Y	24	S	A	N	25	A	T	26	O	M	Y
26	B	A	L	E	S	27	M	O	S	28	N	29	C	R	
31	U	S	E			32	A	C	U	33	S	N	A	I	L
36	G	I	A	N	T	37	S	A	L	38	A	M	A	N	D
40	S	A	V	O	R	S	41	F	L	42	U		E	A	T
43	E	L	I			44	C	U	L	45	P	46	A	R	K
47	C	O	S	T	A	48	N	A	L	49	Y	50	I	S	
51	R	O	P	E	S	52	I	N	53		A	T	M	54	O
56	A	Z	O			57	S	E	C	58	R	E	T	59	S
60	P	E	R			61	I	C	E	62	A	X	63	A	R
64	S	S	T			64	C	E	L	65	T	S	65	W	A

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3	7	1	6	8	9	4	5	2
2	9	6	5	3	4	7	8	1
7	1	9	4	5	6	2	3	8
5	4	3	9	2	8	6	1	7
6	8	2	7	1	3	5	4	9
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8	2	7	1	6	5	3	9	4
9	3	5	8	4	2	1	7	6

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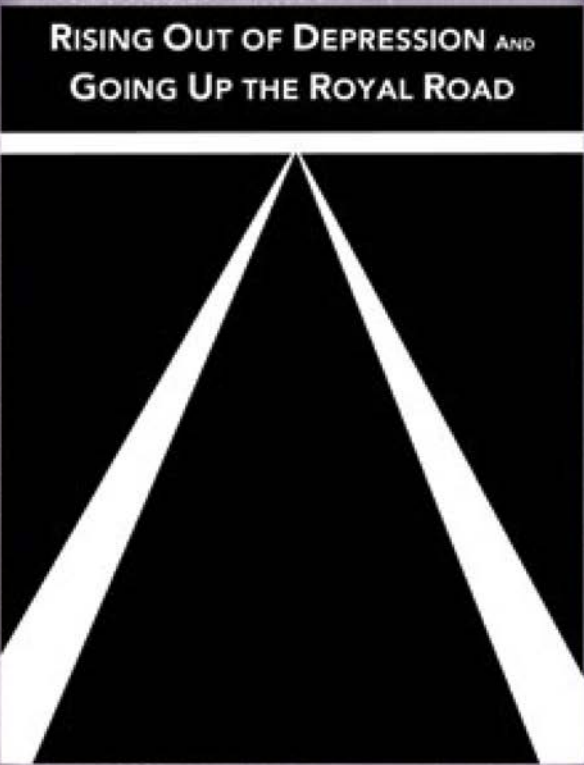
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